

MINUTES
OF
THE FOURTH ANNUAL CONVENTION
ALSO CALLED
THE THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY CONVENTION
OF
THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN
CHURCH IN JAPAN
MISSION CHAMBER

KUMAMOTO KYUSHU

APRIL 4-9, 1923

MINUTES OF THE JOINT MINISTERIUM OF THE JAPAN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH.

Kumamoto, Kyushu, Japan.

First Session.

Kyushu Gakuin, Kumamoto,
Thursday, April 5th, 1923, 8 p. m.

Called to order by the Rev. K. Takimoto, Pres.

Nineteen responded to roll-call.

It was unanimously decided that all ordained missionaries are members of the Joint Ministerium by virtue of ordination although they may not have been in residence on the field two years.

The letter of transfer of the Rev. Hajime Inadomi from the Danish Evangelical Lutheran Synod in America to this body was read and officially received and put into the files of the Japanese Secretary of the Joint Ministerium.

Rev. Inadomi was formally received into full membership in this body by rising vote, and an address of welcome was made by the President.

Inasmuch as certain irregularities in the matter of baptizing candidates without sufficient preparation had come to the notice of the Ministerium, the matter of what should constitute the ordinary period of catechization and what should constitute the minimum of instruction, was discussed at

length. Without taking any formal action, the Ministerium registers it as its consensus of opinion that thorough instruction in Luther's Small Catechism and examination in the same shall constitute the minimum of preparation for Baptism, and that only in extraordinary cases shall any less be deemed sufficient. The proviso "extraordinary" is to be interpreted to mean only such instances as critical illness, or circumstances where the ministrations of a regularly ordained pastor are so infrequent as to render the baptism of the candidate advisable soon after he has awakened to repentance. Furthermore, it is the consensus of opinion of this body that baptism in our churches shall be performed exclusively by our own ministers.

Another matter that was discussed at considerable length, but not finally acted upon, was the question of what shall be the procedure in regard to Japanese graduating from Lutheran Seminaries in America and returning to Japan for ordination: shall their ordination be conditioned upon the two years of service prescribed in Basis of Cooperation (Minutes 9th Annual Convention, Joint Conference, p. 21), or may they be ordained by special action immediately upon returning to Japan?

It was finally decided to present this matter to the Nenkwai and Mission for decision.

The following Officers were elected:

President, Rev. Edward T. Horn

Examining Committee:

Revs. Takimoto, Chiga,
Hepner, and J. K. Linn.

Adjourned at 12:20 a. m.

JOINT MINISTERIUM

Second Session.

Kyushu Gakuin, Kumamoto,
Monday, April 9th, 1923, 2 p. m.

Called to order by Pres. Takimoto.

The special business for which this session was called is as follows:

Mr. Yoshitaro Kitakoga, Evangelist, on account of enfeebled health and inability consequently to perform the duties of an evangelist, had tendered his resignation from the Nenkwai . The resignation had been accepted by the Joint Executive Committee, and this session was called to get the approval of the Joint Ministerium.

The following action was taken: Be it resolved that the action of the Joint Executive Committee in accepting the resignation of Evangelist Yoshitaro Kitakoga be approved. Carried.

Adjourned at 2:25 p. m.



Kumamoto, Kyushu, Japan,
April 4th to 9th, 1923,

MINUTES OF THE FOURTH ANNUAL CONVENTION
OF THE
JAPAN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
MISSION CHAMBER

OPENING SERVICE.

April 4th, 4 p. m. Kyushu Gakuin Church.

Rev. T. Chiga conducted the service.

In the absence of the President, Rev. A. J. Stirewalt, the Vice-President, Rev. C. W. Hepner preached the opening sermon, on the theme, "Lo, I am with you alway"

The service of Confession and Absolution was conducted by Rev. Aoyama. The Communion Service was conducted by Rev. J. K. Linn, assisted by Revs Washiyama and Schillinger.

Seventy-three partook of the Communion.

April 4th, 6:30 p. m. Welcome dinner to delegates, tendered by Kyushu Gakuin, Kyushu Gakuin Church, and Suido-cho Lutheran Church, Kumamoto. Covers were laid for one hundred and twenty. The evening was spent in a social way.

FIRST BUSINESS SESSION.

Kyushu Gakuin, Thursday, April 5th, 1923

9 a. m. Devotional service conducted by Rev. J. K. Linn.

9:30 a. m. Business session called to order, the Rev. C. W. Hepner, Vice-President, presiding, Rev. A. J. Stirewalt having been unavoidably detained in Tokyo on account of illness in his family.

With the exception of Mr. Stirewalt, all the missionaries on the field responded to roll-call, as follows:— Mr. Horn, Mr. Hepner, Miss Akard, Mr. Linn (J.K.), Mr.

Norman, Miss M. Powlas, Miss A. Powlas, Mr. Schillinger, Mr. Knudten, Mr. Gray, Miss Potts, Miss Hendrickson, Miss Shirk, Mr. Arthur Linn. Of these, nine are voting members.

It was moved and unanimously carried that this Convention be considered the Regular Annual Convention for 1923, with the proviso that the Budget for 1924 be left in the hands of the Budget and Finance Committee, to be prepared by the fall of 1923 and submitted to the Executive Committee for final approval.

Representatives were immediately despatched from the Mission Chamber to consult with the Japanese Nenkwai and secure their consent to making this the Regular Annual Convention. The Japanese House passed a unanimous resolution to this effect.

The Chair appointed the following Convention Committees:

Joint Business Committee — Messrs. Linn and Norman.

Reference Committee — Mr. Schillinger, Miss M. Powlas, and Miss A. Powlas.

On New Business, Resolutions and Nominations — Mr. Knudten, Miss Akard, Mr. Gray.

Recent correspondence from the Board of Foreign Missions was read and received as information.

The special Thirtieth Anniversary Greetings from the Board were read and received with thanks. It was moved and carried that these be translated into Japanese, and read at the Special Anniversary Service on Sunday afternoon.

The following MINUTES OF THE JOINT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, of actions taken ad interim were read and approved in full:—

MINUTES OF THE JOINT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Sept. 23, 1922. Voted to advance Yen—200. as “shikikin” (guarantee money) for house occupied by Messrs Okuma and Ohara and others, with the privilege of using said houses

as a place for S. S. , at Takadanobaba, Tokyo suburbs.

Oct. 7th, 1922. That because of the very unsatisfactory record made by our beneficiary student, Murata Toyoji at Kwansei Gakuin, our support in behalf of him be discontinued from Sept. 30th, 1922.

Oct. 7, 1922. That we grant Mr. J. Nomura an addition of November salary and moving expenses back from Yamaguchi to Shimonoseki.

Oct. 17, 1922. Inasmuch as the Kyushu Gakuin Zaidan has requested that Rev. Hajime Inadomi be asked to teach ten hours per week in the Theological Seminary till the time of his military service, be it resolved that the Joint Executive Committee approves this arrangement.

Kumamoto, Jan. 18-19, 1923. The following actions were taken :-

Owing to the continued ill health of Evangelist Shiina at Minamata, that he be directed to come to Kumamoto for thorough physical examination, results of same to be reported by physicians to the Joint Executive Committee through Mr. Horn.

In regard to the transfer of Mr. Kitakoga from Saga to Karatsu as proposed and acted on by the last Convention : that the same action be reaffirmed, but that on the advice of those connected with the Saga station execution of the action be deferred.

Inasmuch as the Board has directed that unless otherwise informed within three months from time of departure for furlough, missionaries may expect to return to their former fields, action was taken that, whereas there are many places in need of a missionary, and whereas Mr. Knudten was appointed to Nagoya with a view to his remaining there for some time, Rev. S. O. Thorlaksson upon his return to Japan will be appointed to some other station.

Till relief comes in the form of reinforcements, Mr. J. K. Linn was appointed associate missionary at Kurume, Hita, Omuta and Amagi.

Mr. J. K. Linn was appointed associate missionary at Suidocho Church, Kumamoto.

Rev. H. Inadomi's letter of transfer from the Danish Synod was presented and accepted, and Mr. Inadomi was received as a member of the Nenkwai of the Japan Evangelical Lutheran Church.

The translation of Luther's Small Catechism as submitted by the Literature Committee was approved, and its immediate publication authorized.

The Joint Executive Committee approved the plan suggested by the Mission Executive Committee both in regard to the proposition of the Omuta congregation, and in regard to the matter of asking the Board to assist in the raising of local station property funds.

The Joint Executive Committee approved the report of the Beneficiary Committee in regard to Sakai Yoneo and Aoyama Kazunami, candidates for entrance into the Seminary and for beneficiary aid. It was resolved that both candidates should be recommended to the Seminary Faculty for admission on three months' probation.

In regard to Otsuka Momoe, that she be placed in Osaka as Bible woman after her graduation from school in the spring. That Messrs. Stirewalt and Honda be a committee to draw up rules for the administration of the fund for assisting pastors and evangelists in need, and report at the Spring Convention. It was voted to pay Mr. Taketani's moving expenses from Moji, in the amount of ¥24.25.

The Joint Executive Committee approves the action of the Mission in regard to Mrs. Matsumoto, widow of the late Rev. S. Matsumoto, and directs that the action take effect from and beginning with February 1923.

The time for the Thirtieth Anniversary Convention was fixed at April 4th, Opening Service and Communion, Kyushu Gakuin Church. Special anniversary services to be held on Sunday the 8th. It is proposed to publish a special Anniversary Number of the "Ruteru" giving detailed reviews of

various phases of the work of the Lutheran Church in Japan. Special greetings from the Board and from our brethren on furlough will be solicited. It is proposed to have on sale Luther emblems in the form of the Luther League pin, fob, button, etc., as souvenirs of this anniversary, and Mr. Horn is authorized to order from the Lutheran publication House.

Feb. 17, 1923 On recommendation of the Woman's Work Committee, it was decided to discontinue the support of Saeki Etsuko as a beneficiary.

March 1, 1923. Inasmuch as Mr. Hatanaka Keikichi has been compelled to discontinue his Seminary course on account of ill health, moved and carried that his beneficiary allowance be discontinued from the first of April, but that, for a period of three months an allowance of ¥25 per month be granted him in case he should not be able to secure work within that time.

March 1, 1923. That Kawakiri Shinichi, entering the Theological Seminary in April of this year, be granted beneficiary allowance. Carried.

April 3, 1923. In regard to application for beneficiary aid by Okamoto Shigeo of Toyohashi, moved and carried that his case be referred to the Faculty of the Seminary for investigation, and that beneficiary aid be granted provided the Faculty found him qualified to enter the Seminary. (Note: Candidate not admitted.)

(End of Minutes of Joint Executive Committee.)

(Note: these minutes were approved in full by the
Nenkwai also.)

The following Report of the Mission Executive Committee was read and approved in full:—

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE
MISSION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
SINCE THE LAST CONVENTION

Sept. 25th, 1923. That travelling expenses to the Third Annual Convention be granted on the following basis:— All railway, extra express and berth fares, and other expenses incidental to travelling, over and above the total of such expenses incurred in a direct journey home. Carried.

Oct. 20, 1922 Inasmuch as the doctors, after thorough examination, have pronounced Mrs. Nielsen's case most critical and have advised immediate operation here or return to America at once, and inasmuch as, on the basis of this diagnosis made here in Kumamoto and in Seoul, Korea, Mr. and Mrs. Nielsen have already sailed for America, be it resolved that the Mission Executive Committee approve the return of Mr. and Mrs. Nielsen to America at this time, and explain the situation to the Board, requesting the Board's sanction of the course that has been taken.

Nov. 6, 1922. Mr. Horn was finally elected to succeed Mr. Nielsen on the Literature Committee.

Mr. J. K. Linn was finally elected to succeed Mr. Nielsen on the Constitution Revision Committee.

The motion relative to granting leave of absence of from one and a half to two months to Mr. Knudten for reasons of family health and welfare, carried on third ballot.

Jan. 8, 1923. The following motions were made by the Women's Work Committee, voted on ad interim by the Mission, and carried:—

" There are several tracts of land in Kumamoto which have been offered to us for our Girls' School, at unusually cheap prices, and similar offers may come in the near future.

" An unappropriated balance of ¥ 4,403.82

from the Women's Budget of 1921 remains on hand. A like, or perhaps even larger amount, may be left from the 1922 Budget. Mrs. Beegle writes that the Society has on hand about \$15,000 which they will be glad to send to Japan at any time, for the Girls' School.

" The Women's Work Committee has passed a resolution asking that the Mission immediately elect a committee of five (5) to be responsible for securing a site in Kumamoto for the Girls' School, and promoting the interests of the school in every way possible. And also,

" That the Mission at the same time request the Board to send out immediately the funds on hand for the land, and that the above-mentioned balances be appropriated for this cause, so that no opportunity to buy desirable land may be lost.

The following were elected to serve as the Girls' School Promoting Committee: Miss Akard, Miss M. Powlas, Mr. Hepner, Mr. J. K. Linn, Mr. Horn.
Kumamoto, Jan. 16-18, 1923. Mission Executive Committee took action in regard to the following:—

Tokyo Equipment: That we request the Board's permission to use the money on-hand first of all for the purchase of a suitable lot for the Church, and negotiate with the Board for the amount required to erect a chapel building.

Child Allowance for Missionaries: That the Secretary of the Mission secure the facts in regard to allowances paid by other Missions in Japan and refer them to the Board, with a request to the Board to take action of some sort towards making child allowance more nearly adequate.

Doctrinal Basis: Calling the attention of the Board to the fact that the doctrinal basis of the Japan Evangelical Lutheran Church is the same as the doctrinal basis of the United Lutheran Church in America, see 1920 Minutes, P. 130, Ch. II.

Translation of the Common Service: If permission be necessary, request the Board to take up the matter with the Common Service Committee.

Mr. J. K. Linn was appointed Auditor in place of Mr. Nielsen.

Much time was spent on a discussion of Mission Rules, but finally the whole matter was deferred till the Spring Convention.

Insurance: That the Mission pays all insurance on Mission property including all Mission-owned furnishings.

That henceforth all insurance of Mission property including furnishings be handled by and in the name of the Mission Shadan.

Plan of the Omuta Congregation: In regard to this plan, for raising money for church property, the Executive Committee instructs the Omuta congregation to account to the Mission Treasurer for all money realized from the rental of the old chapel property. At the same time, the Mission Executive Committee is willing to ask the Board to consent to a plan for local station property funds, whereby the Mission will deposit one yen for every yen raised by the local congregation for local church property.

Land for Omuta Church: The Omuta Church reports a very advantageous lot available for approximately ¥6,000. The Executive Committee recommends that this amount be asked for from the surplus of 1922 Budget for the purchase of this property, stating at the same time however that it may be necessary to go as high as 7000, and asking the Board to grant this additional 1000 if necessary.

Bicycles: The Mission Executive Committee makes the ruling that for all bicycles, both those owned by the Mission and those personally owned and used in Mission work, taxes and one-half repair bills will be paid out of the Mission Treasury.

Printing Minutes: That the Minutes of the 1922 Annual Convention, and the Minutes of the approaching Thirtieth Anniversary Convention shall be printed together in one booklet.

Messrs. Linn, Gray and Horn were appointed a local committee to make preparations for the Spring Convention in

Kumamoto.

The following resolutions proposed by the Women's Work Committee were favorably passed on:

(a) That furlough be granted to Miss Maude Powlas from June of 1923,

(b) That Miss Hendrickson be appointed to take up her residence in Kumamoto from the fall of 1923 as a substitute for Miss M. Powlas in the Rescue Work during her absence on furlough, with however special emphasis on language study.

(c) That Otsuka Momoe, who will graduate from Kyoritsu Bible School, Yokohama, in April, be located in Osaka as a Bible woman.

(d) That the Woman's Board be asked to permit the auditing of books annually, and do away with quarterly financial reports.

The Mission Executive Committee passed the following resolution:

That the President of the Mission shall countersign no orders for funds and approve no financial reports against the local evangelistic budgets unless the orders and reports are signed conjointly by both Japanese pastor(s) or evangelist(s) concerned and the co-operating associate missionary.

(End of Minutes of Mission Executive Committee.)

On behalf of the absent President, Mr. Hepner V. P. read the President's Report

REPORT
of the President
to the
FOURTH ANNUAL CONVENTION
of the
JAPAN MISSION of the UNITED LUTHERAN
CHURCH IN AMERICA.

Dear Co-Workers:

This having been declared a regular meeting, we are

now assembled in our fourth annual Convention. Not knowing beforehand that this would be a regular Convention, together with the fact that it is less than seven months since the third annual Convention adjourned, it would seem that a lengthy report would not be required.

We have reason to think that during this interval, the Lord's blessing has been upon us, and our work. Changes have taken place, and some of these have been disappointments. But changes of a constructive nature have also taken place. The Lord's ways are not our ways. We still have abundant reason to hold claim on our Lord's promise — His last promise — a promise so precious to those who are following His command, in their attempt to make disciples of all nations, and believe, as He said, : "I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world". May we, throughout this Convention, in prayer, earnestly lay claim to His presence and guidance.

Since our last Convention, two missionary families, because of ill health, have returned to the homeland. Our force has suffered the loss of another missionary, as regards the counting of units. But fortunately, this made no reduction in the number of individuals of our mission ; for the unit in question was happily united with another unit, and we have reason to think that Mrs. Gray will be equal to Miss Bowers in exerting constructive and wide influence. Four evangelists, according to action of our last Convention, have severed connection with our work. This necessitated the discontinuance of the work begun in the out-stations of Yamaguchi prefecture. Unfortunately, the Moji station is still vacant, and no one has been sent to help in the work in Nagoya. In January, Evangelist Shiina was necessitated to enter the hospital, and his case is such as to require us to consider Minamata vacant.

To help offset these losses, we are glad to report the arrival of two new missionary units, and the return to Japan, from America, of one Japanese ordained minister. An official welcome is hereby restated to Rev. and Mrs. J.

Arthur Linn, and to Miss Helen Shirk, whose presence we are happy to have at this Convention. To these new missionaries, it should be said, that, while according to our constitution, a vote is not yet accorded you, we wish to assure you that you have the freedom of the floor, at all times, and we doubt not that you will be able to make valuable contributions to the solution of our problems by the expression of ideas — your ideas which are unbiased, because of the absence of historical connection with the affairs of our work. We welcome you into our work, and trust that you may feel at home with us.

The Omuta Church began a program of self-support and independence from March the first.

The number of communicant members reported for our work at large, for the year 1921 was 1366. That for 1922 is 1574, an increase of slightly over 15%. During the same year, the number of our Sunday Schools has increased from 36 to 42 — an increase of almost 17%. The Sunday School enrollment has advanced from 1830 to 2357 — an increase of almost 29%. The amount of money raised, for all purposes, by the churches, was Y-2564.74 during 1921, while during 1922, it was Y-7356.17 — an increase of over 175%.

Statistics are often misleading, and a margin should be allowed for error in these, but when such allowance is made, it would seem that we have had a year of good normal growth. It is unfortunate, that, in reporting statistics, more care is not taken. To the statistician, errors are manifest, but how to remedy them would be known only to those who are personally associated with the work which it reported.

In former years, we were accustomed, when in annual meeting, to discuss certain theses, or questions of practical importance to our work. That this feature of our program has been discontinued during recent years, seems unfortunate. There is danger of our drifting apart in methods of work, and of each missionary and associated Japanese following

methods and ideals distinctively their own. There is a danger of our ideas becoming divergent and of our losing the solidarity to which we have a claim. There is a danger of neglecting some of those privileges in which we can be of mutual help, if ideas are freely compared, and judged by that Word which we recognize as authoritative. It would be a constructive step, if, at this Convention, we could commit ourselves to give place to such, when arranging for future Conventions.

The Mutual Aid Fund for Workers during Illness, which Fund was created by action of our last Convention, is gradually growing in amount. But the amount is still small, and we are confronted with demands. In order to make this Fund more useful, from the present, and to impress its importance on those concerned, it would be well, if we could appropriate a certain amount of money, as a special contribution to add to what is already in hand, with the clear understanding that such a special appropriation is not to be expected in the future.

Our Lutheran Church Paper, known as the RUTHER, is an organ of considerable opportunity, and it should exert a helpful influence within our work, as well as outside of it. But it is a question whether, or not, this paper is accomplishing its purpose, and justifying the finance and editorship required. It would be well if we would examine its present status and see if it is reaching its highest possible efficiency in behalf of our cause. It might be a question if the present paper is sufficiently educative for our pastors and for the more advanced of our baptized membership, or sufficiently evangelistic to meet the needs of others with whom we have contact. It would seem that more emphasis should be put upon preparing the paper to meet the needs of some special class of people, or, to make different departments of the paper meet the needs of different classes. Perhaps the paper could be enriched, if some person — preferably a missionary — who has ready access to periodicals published in English from which much valuable material and ideas giving

a wider vision could be gleaned, were put on the editorial staff.

The matter of appropriate Christian literature is, and has been, of no little moment. We are contributing a considerable amount each year to the Christian Literature Society. We are using some of its publications, as well as publications of other literature producing agencies. But the amount on sale is too great, and our time too limited, for each of us to examine for himself and ascertain that which is most worthy of purchase and distribution. It would be well, if our Literature Committee, in addition to producing literature of our own, could be delegated to examine existing literature and recommend for our own use.

The churches are now paying one-third of the expenses incurred by the attendance of their pastors and evangelists at Convention. Inasmuch as ad interim committee meetings are but an extenuation of our annual meeting, it would seem but reasonable and logical that these churches pay an equal proportion of the expenses incurred by the Japanese membership attending such committee meetings.

Questions pertaining to the reception, or dismissal of beneficiary students are acted on by the Joint Executive Committee. Inasmuch as we have given our Japanese brethren this voice in this department of our work, and for other reasons as well, it would seem that it would be wise and helpful to have one Japanese pastor serve on our Beneficiary Student Committee.

It is convincingly clear to some of us that the matter of beneficiary student support is fraught with many questions and beset with many difficulties. Some of these questions would be partly solved, if we could have the Japanese church help, even to a small extent, in the support of such students. It would be especially desirable, if each student would be guaranteed a certain amount of support by the local church from which he comes. The moral effect on the student, as well as on the congregation would be surprising, and the effect on our church, at large, would be such as to inspire laudable pride.

We are granting to each pastor and evangelist a certain amount of money each year for books. It might be that the purpose for which this is granted is overlooked by some. If this purpose could be emphasized, the money might be used to a greater extent for the purpose intended.

A committee has been elected to secure a site for the proposed Girls' School, and for other matters pertaining to the establishment of this school. The question has been raised as to the sphere of duties required of this committee. It would be well if this matter could be made clear, by this Convention, so as to avoid any possible misunderstanding in the future.

Knowing the length of time required to secure the grant of a Zaidan, I recently investigated at the central government Educational Department regarding the necessary Zaidan for our proposed girls' school, so that land when bought, might be registered at the proper place, so as to avoid the expense of transferring it afterwards. The advice received was, that inasmuch as our mission has a Zaidan, the purpose of which is to educate boys, it is not necessary to organize a separate zaidan; but that the stated purpose of the existing zaidan be changed so as to include the education of girls. In order to effect this alteration; it is necessary to secure the approval of the Educational Department. This approval, I was assured, will not be difficult to get, but about two weeks time will be necessary after our application is sent in.

As stewards of God, we are commissioned to preach the Word. The preaching of the Word may take various forms, and the hearing secured may be under various and varying circumstances. But the commission itself has not changed. It is our privilege to preach and to bear witness. But as the privilege is great, so is the responsibility. The time-tried and thoroughly tested methods of our own church, are based upon principles which require no change. We are so situated that we naturally come in close contact with denominations which use "speed-up" methods. There is a danger of our own church being unduly influenced by these. There is a

danger of our exchanging the better for the worse. Unless our preaching and teaching be of sufficient quality, and during a sufficient time, to produce a sound faith and a thorough repentance, there is a danger of adding names to our church roll, while the individuals are left out of the church. To say that salvation is free does not mean that it is so free that its standards of acceptance are lowered, or made common. Unfortunately, a large part of our Japanese working force is other than Lutheran trained. We missionaries who have had the privilege of imbibing an appreciation of Lutheran heritage would do well to hold up before our co-workers the need of a conservative — though zealous — procedure in leading individuals to Christ. The Kingdom is established more rapidly, and more durably, by those who remain after baptism, than by those who, under a spell of enthusiasm and persuasion, give assent, without giving their heart and their life to their Lord. To get is necessary, but to hold is the factor which determines whether the Kingdom has been extended, or not — whether the soul is saved, or whether it has merely passed through a religious experience.

On motion, the President's Report was received and placed in the hands of the Committee on New Business and Resolutions.

REPORT OF THE ACTING DEAN OF KYUSHU GAKUIN.

As this Thirtieth Anniversary Convention meets in Kumamoto, Kyushu Gakuin is entering only upon its thirteenth year. She is only a child and hardly entitled to indulge in reminiscences. We shall confine ourselves therefore mainly to the present and the future.

Just as this Convention assembles, Kyushu Gakuin is regretting the loss of two fine Christian teachers: Prof. T. Oku, head teacher, goes to Tokyo to take a professorship in the Nihon Joshi Daigaku, the highest college for women in Japan. Mr. Goya, a young English teacher, goes to Tokyo to study English in the Imperial University. Both of these are strong Christian characters, good teachers, and will be greatly missed in class-room and church. Both were members of the Kyushu Gakuin Church Council.

In order to fill the gaps in the English department caused by their resignation we are engaging the services of part-time men. At the same time, inasmuch as we feel that Rev. H. Inadomi will be most successful in the religious work in the middle school department, and wish to have his connection with the middle school boys as close as possible, we would like the Convention to recommend to the Zaidan of Kyushu Gakuin that Mr. Inadomi's hours in the middle school be greatly increased in number, and consequently his hours in the Theological Seminary reduced. This class-room contact with the students is a necessary condition of successful influence among them. As a means to help out the present emergency in the English department, and also to get this contact with the boys, Mr. Inadomi is willing to assume eleven hours of English teaching for a time. An additional teacher of mathematics has been engaged, and another teacher in the department of physical culture.

In regard to the property of the school, the rear line will be seriously affected by the building of the new Kumamoto City trolley system. The first line to be built will go to Suizenji Park, and will cut off nearly a hundred "tsubo" of our property at the far S. W. corner (part of the yard of the home at present occupied by Prof. Murakami.). Mr. Murakami's house will have to be moved, and it is not certain whether the proceeds of the sale of the required land to the city will entirely cover the cost of this or not: it may be necessary to ask for some appropriation in the budget for this purpose.

Acting on the Zaidan's permission, application was

made and granted for the school to raise its maximum number of students to 630. In order to provide accommodations for the increased number, and with the Zaidan's permission, we have contracted for a building at the rear of the Main Building to contain two class-rooms. The building is already under way. It is of reinforced concrete, and put up substantially but at comparatively little expense. We expect to build and furnish it for ¥5,000 or perhaps less. The building is being erected on the condition that no extra appropriation for the purpose is to be made: it will be partly provided for out of the 1922 surplus, and partly from increased income through tuition fees.

As time goes on, the need of better dormitory accommodations becomes more and imperative. Two years ago we asked for ¥10,000 for this purpose and included the item in the Budget. The Board cut it out and proposed to the Lutheran Brotherhood that they take up this as a special object, just what success they have met with we do not yet know. The two little huts to the right of the entrance now used as dormitory cottages are a disgrace to the school. They are such wretched buildings that they are continually eating up in repairs more money than they are worth. It would be good business to replace them. When the time comes, we hope to be permitted to include in the Budget for 1924 an item for ¥10,000 for this purpose, in addition to the amount being raised by the Lutheran Brotherhood for another wing to the Main Dormitory. It is trite to remind you that our best opportunity to impress students is in the dormitory: but it is a fact that our dormitory accommodations are not as good as the equipment in government schools here, and unless we improve our dormitory equipment, we shall be unable to accomplish what we should and could through the medium of a wholesome dormitory life.

In 1924 it will be necessary to do some painting and fencing, and we shall have to request ¥3,500 for painting, and an item of ¥3,000 for building walls or fences.

Furthermore, we are hoping that the time when we

shall have a good Japanese chaplain is not far distant. We should arrange at once to provide a house on the school campus for the incumbent of this office, and we would like to have an item of ¥4,000 inserted in the 1924 budget for this purpose.

With the return of the Dean, the present Acting Dean and Chaplain must vacate Harper Memorial Home, the official residence of the Dean. As there is no home provided, he may be forced to temporarily occupy the home just vacated by Mr. Oku on the campus. But this house is really needed for a Japanese teacher, and the occupation of it should be only temporary. Kyushu Gakuin should have a home on the campus for the use of the missionary associated with the religious work of the school. We need such a home immediately. If we build of reinforced concrete we can put up a plain but substantial and comfortable house for ¥8,000. It may be necessary to ask for this as a supplementary budget for the year 1923.

For several years, we have been agitating the importance of having a higher department of some kind in connection with Kyushu Gakuin. The Dean has been particularly interested in this. A full high school course of government standard would be the ideal thing, but it would cost far more than our Church could possibly afford. It has been suggested however by the Principal that we might aim to provide a highly specialized English course of three or four years for the training of English teachers. This school would need a faculty of about four full time professors and several part time men. The full time teachers must be the very best English professors available, each a specialist in his particular branch. The primary aim of this school would be to turn out Christian English teachers with a thorough technical and practical speaking knowledge of the English language. Such a higher department could be added at comparatively small financial outlay. One building of half a dozen rooms would be sufficient. A good reference English library would be indispensable. Students could be admitted directly from our own and other middle schools. The grad-

uates, even without a license to teach, would be better qualified than the majority of licensed middle school teachers and would be eagerly sought after. They could easily pass the Government examinations if they wished and secure licenses. We would like to have this plan considered. At all events we ought to take measures speedily to conserve to our own work and our own church many promising young men who, in order to pursue their education above middle grade must go to other schools where higher departments are provided.

In March seventy-eight students were graduated. Of this number, twenty are members of the Kyushu Gakuin Church, and three others are members of other churches. The religious work in the school holds its own, but, although we made a step forward in appointing a chaplain and establishing a school church, we have largely neutralized the effect of this by making the chaplain assume the duties of dean, and burdening him with duties that render him unable to conduct his duties to the church with due forethought and vigor. We sincerely hope that Dr. Miller will be back by the fall of this year so that all departments of the work may receive proper attention.

It is with gratification that we note that the first item on the program of the Foreign Mission Forward Fund is \$35,000 for the Brown Memorial Chapel and we trust that by the fall of 1923 we may receive assurance that the money is in hand. We may expect to make unprecedented advances in our religious work when we get the proper equipment with which to conduct it on a large and effective scale. With Rev. Mr. Inadomi linked up with the religious work in the school, Dr. Miller back, and the present chaplain relieved of business duties, the religious work should make good progress. The School wishes herewith to express its most sincere thanks to Mrs. Robert Holland for the fine photograph of Dr. Holland, and to the Board of Foreign Missions for the splendid photograph of Dr. C. L. Brown which have just been received. Mr. Stirewalt in Tokyo gave his personal attention to having these both framed in

the same style, and they present a very handsome appearance. For the time being, these pictures will be hung in the Principal's and Dean's offices. Later, when the Chapel is built, they will be hung in the Chapel. The gratitude of this Institution to both of these noble men will grow greater and warmer as the years go by and the School demonstrates the permanency and the truth of those ideals upon which they were instrumental in establishing it.

Kyushu Gakuin wishes also to acknowledge with thanks the safe receipt of an upright Cecilian piano with player attachment, the gift of an unknown donor through the Board of Foreign Missions. The piano has been placed in the temporary home of the Kyushu Gakuin Church, and will be used for the first time at the opening service of the Thirtieth Anniversary Convention of the Japan Lutheran Church, April 4th, 1923. The Donor and the Board will please accept our heartiest thanks for this handsome gift.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) Edward T. Horn,

Acting Dean.

P. S. Since this Report was presented to the Convention, there occurred on the 5th and 6th of April the entrance examinations for new students. It will interest all friends of the school to know that we continue to enjoy the confidence of the public, and in spite of the fact that several new middle schools are being built by the government in Kumamoto Prefecture, Kyushu Gakuin had its usual number of applicants, namely about three hundred and fifty (350). Our enlarged accommodations even cannot include half these, and we were able to admit only one hundred and forty-six (146).

It is worth remarking that while only 2 per-cent of these are Christian, about 25 per-cent will probably be Christian when this class graduates five years hence (judging from our experience). Is it worth while?

E. T. H.

REPORT OF LITERATURE COMMITTEE.

It is with gratification that we are able to report that the revision of Luther's Small Catechism has been completed, and has been published and is in our hands ready for sale as a Thirtieth Anniversary Edition. One thousand copies have been printed, at a cost of ¥550. The question arises at what price the book should be sold, as it is the hope of the Committee that it should be sold rather than merely distributed. The printer thought it might be sold at one yen per copy: we have fixed the price at seventy-five sen. But it might be well to sell it even cheaper in order that the sale may be as wide as possible. If it could be sold as low as fifty sen and the entire edition rapidly disposed of, it would perhaps be the best policy.

The form of the publication is of a high grade. Good paper, extra large print, convenient size, and attractive binding, cloth with gold lettering and Luther's crest in gold, should render this edition easily salable. The translation and revision had the approval of the Joint Executive Committee beside the approval of the Literature Committee. Unfortunately several errors more or less serious occurred in the printing. These have been corrected on an insert leaf.

The Catechism having been published in revised form, we are now ready to turn our attention to the work of revising and publishing the Book of Common Service, and trust that by the next Convention we may be able to report that this work has been done.

Literature Committee: C. W. Hepner
E. T. Horn
H. Aoyama
S. Takashima

First Session adjourned at Noon.

SECOND SESSION.

Kyushu Gakuin, Kumamoto.

Thursday, April 5th, 1923.

2 p. m. Led in prayer by Rev. Arthur Linn.

Called to order by Rev. C. W. Hepner, V. P.

Minutes of previous session read and approved.

Resolution :

That an English telegram of sympathy and regret be sent in the name of the Mission to Rev. A. J. Stirewalt, Pres. Unanimously carried.

The Committee on New Business and Resolutions presented resolutions on recommendations made by the President in his Report, and action was taken on them item by item. In the following, only such recommendations and resolutions as were adopted appear. If amended, they appear in their finally adopted form.

1. That we, in connection with the Nenkwai, investigate and take appropriate action regarding the self-support and independence announced by the Omuta Church.

2. That the Joint Executive Committee be asked to investigate our methods of making statistical reports, with a view to improvement and simplification of the blanks at present in use, and that the Joint Executive Committee also take up the matter of providing uniform church record books for the purpose of securing more accurate records and statistics.

3. That our Literature Committee be asked to investigate such Japanese Christian literature as it may be able to examine and to designate the comparative value of those pieces which it would recommend for use in our church.

4. That our Beneficiary Committee be asked to investigate and report at the next Convention concerning the

treatment of beneficiary students by other Missions.

5. That the Girls' School Promoting Committee be asked to outline what it considers to be its sphere of activity and report at a later session of this Convention, this report to be made the basis of discussion in defining the Committee's duties.

6. That the Girls' School Promoting Committee, in consultation with the Zaidan of Kyushu Gakuin, be instructed to investigate and report on the advisability of asking the Zaidan to request of the Government such changes in the Articles of the Zaidan as would be necessary, in order to include in the statement of PURPOSE of the Zaidan the "education of girls".

7. That our Mission give an official welcome to the Rev. Hajime Inadomi, who returned from America last October and is now working with us.

Second Session adjourned at 5:30 p. m.

MEETING OF THE JOINT MINISTERIUM.

Kyushu Gakuin Church, April 5th, 1923

8 p. m. to 12:20 a. m.

(Minutes appear elsewhere—)

THIRD BUSINESS SESSION.

Kyushu Gakuin,

Friday, April 6th, 1923.

8:30 a. m. Devotions led by Rev. C. E. Norman.

Special prayers were offered for all of our absent brethren, and especially for the recovery of Mrs. Nielsen and Mrs. Stirewalt.

9 a. m. Called to order for business by Rev. C. W. Hepner, V. P.

The minutes of the previous session were read and approved.

Mr. Linn outlined the inadequacy of the present chapel accommodations at Hita. In consequence the following motion was made and carried:

Be it resolved that, the resident Evangelist at Hita, in consultation with the associate Missionary, be authorized to make necessary repairs on the Hita Chapel in order to make it adequate to accommodate the greatly increased attendances in the Sunday-School, and that the expenses of these repairs be met out of the balance on the 1922 Budget.

Various matters of purely local interest were discussed, without taking any action.

10:30 the business session was adjourned to give time for committees to work.

FOURTH BUSINESS SESSION.

Kyushu Gakuin

Friday, April 6th, 1923.

3 p. m. Called to order for business by the Vice President.

Minutes read and approved.

The REPORT OF THE PROPERTY COMMITTEE was read and received as information, and it was placed on file for the information of the incoming Committee.

Mr. J. K. Linn reported for the JOINT EVANGELISTIC COMMITTEE that the Committee had met and

organized at Arima in September of 1922, immediately after the Convention, and had elected Rev. T. Chiga Chairman, but had not had any further meetings or transacted any business.

Miss Akard reported for the GIRLS' SCHOOL PROMOTING COMMITTEE as follows:—

REPORT OF THE GIRLS' SCHOOL PROMOTING COMMITTEE.

On Friday Jan. 19, 1923, the committee of five newly elected to secure land for the Girls' School and to promote in every way possible the interests of the future school, met in Kumamoto at Missionary Linn's home. After discussion the following actions were taken.

1st. It was decided to send a cablegram to the Mission Board asking that all funds on hand for the School be forwarded to us by wire immediately for the purpose of buying land, the Mission having passed a resolution asking the Board to send out immediately the funds on hand for the land and that the balances from the 1921 and the 1922 Woman's Budgets be appropriated to the same cause.

2nd. It was decided that a map of the city of Kumamoto, with available lots indicated, should be in the hands of each member of the committee, so that they having seen these lots, might be able to vote on short notice on any proposition that might come.

The meeting was closed with prayer led by Rev. C. W. Hepner.

In answer to the request of the Mission for a definition of the sphere of our committee, we submit the following;

This committee understands that it is authorized, to

- (1) To determine upon the site of the School.
- (2) To purchase the land.

(3) To recommend how it is to be held, whether by a new zaidan, or by the Kyushu Gakuin Zaidan,

(4) To draw up concrete plans for the buildings and submit same to Mission for criticism and suggestions.

(5) To be responsible for the actual building operations.

(6) To recommend an appropriate name for the school.

(7) To recommend a Japanese principal and a Missionary dean, and in consultation with these two to determine questions in regard to the selection and preparation of teachers, until the zaidan of said school shall have been constituted, at which time the promoting committee shall automatically dissolve.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha B. Akard

Maude Powlas

E. T. Horn

J. K. Linn

C. W. Hepner.

On motion, the Report was received and the portion defining the functions of the Promoting Committee was taken up for consideration item by item and adopted in the form as above.

The following matters were reported through the Joint Business Committee :

(a) The Nenkwai took action proposing to change the Basis of Co-operation, II,4b so as to give the Joint Ministerium the right to employ and dismiss Japanese pastors and evangelists, adding clause to Art. IV.

In reply, the Mission passed a resolution as follows :
That the Mission does not concur in the action of the Nenkwai with regard to the proposed amendment of Basis of Co-operation, II,4b, inasmuch as in our opinion the Ministerium has and should have no executive power of this sort. The General Body is the proper representative of the Church as such, and matters not pertaining to faith and

doctrine do not properly come within the jurisdiction of the Ministerium.

(b) The Nenkwai proposed that to Ch. VI of the Japanese Constitution a clause be added as 4, to the effect that the evangelist of a church paying one-fourth of the pastor's salary be a full member of the Nenkwai whether said evangelist be ordained (a pastor) or unordained, and without respect to the number of years of service.

The Nenkwai proposed that in Ch. XVIII of the Japanese Constitution, No. 5, the words "above eighteen years of age" be stricken out.

The Nenkwai proposed that these two amendments be proposed for final decision at the next Convention.

In reply, The Mission took the following action :
Resolved, that inasmuch as a Committee on the Revision of the Constitution and Basis of Co-operation is at work on these documents, we decline to take action on these proposals, leaving the matter of proposing amendments in the hands of the Revision Committee.

And further,

Resolved, that we instruct our Business Committee to propose through the Japanese Business Committee that at this Convention the Nenkwai confine its discussion of the Constitution to those points wherein the Japanese Constitution conflicts with the Basis of Co-operation.

This action was referred back to the Nenkwai, and the Nenkwai acquiesced.

Adjournment, 5 p. m.

FIFTH SESSION.

Kyushu Gakuin, Kumamoto.

Saturday, April 7th, 1923.

8 : 45 a. m. Miss A. Powlas led in devotions.

9 : 15 a. m. Called to order for business, Rev. C. W. Hepner presiding.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS :

Pres. A. J. Stirewalt.
V. P. Edward T. Horn.
Sec. John K. Linn.
Treas. C. E. Norman.

Fifth Member of Mission Executive Com. : Miss Akard.

The report of the Nominating Committee was received, and the following were elected :

Budget and Finance Committee :
Messrs. Horn, Norman, Hepner

Evangelistic Committee :
Messrs. Hepner and Linn (J. K.)

Literature Committee :
Messrs. Hepner and Horn.

Property Committee :
Mr. Gray, Mr. Knudten,
Miss A. Powlas, Mrs. Hepner.

Colony of Mercy Committee :
Miss Akard, Miss Hendrickson,
Mrs. Horn, Mr. Linn (J. K.),
Mr. Horn.

Woman's Work Committee :
Mr. Stirewalt, Misses Potts,
A. Powlas, Akard.

Committee on Higher Education in Kyushu :
Mr. Horn.

Members of the Constitution Revision Committee :
Revs. Stirewalt, Hepner, J. K. Linn.

Delegates to Federated Missions :

Principals	Alternates
Mr. Stirewalt	Mr. J. K. Linn
Mr. Hepner	Mr. Schillinger
Miss Akard	Miss A. Powlas
Mr. Norman	Mr. Knudten

Reporter to Japan Evangelist :

Mr. Arthur Linn.

Representative on Canadian Academy Board :

Mr. Hepner.

Auditors : Mr. Miller, Mr. Schillinger.

Publicity Committee :

Mr. Knudten, Mr. Schillinger
Mrs. Norman, Mrs. Gray.

Photographer : Mr. Knudten.

Adjournment : 12:05.

SERVICE OF DEDICATION OF THE COLONY OF MERCY (JI-AI-EN)

Place : Aza Kuwamizu, Kengun Mura, Hotaka Gun, Ku-
mamoto Ken, Kyushu.

Time : Saturday, April 7th; 1923, beginning at 2 p. m.

PROGRAM

Chairman : Rev. K. Takimoto, Pres. of the
Nenkwai.

Scripture Reading and Prayer —

Rev. Kawase, Yawata Church.

Dedicatory Address — Rev. E. T. Horn.

Report of the Work — Mrs. Nonaka.

Greetings — The Governor of Kumamoto Province.

The Mayor of Kumamoto City.

The Head of the County.

The Head of the Village.

President of the Local Young Men's Ass'n.

Representing the pastors of Kumamoto —

Rev. Kawase, Methodist.

Representing the Laymen of Kumamoto —

Dr. Y. Fukuda.

Words of Welcome and Thanks —

Mr. S. Toyama, Princ. Kyushu Gakuin,
representing Miss Powlas.

Tea and cake, served by the Ladies' Societies of
Kumamoto Lutheran Churches.

In the name of Kumamoto Province, Governor Okada
presented the JI-AI-EN with one hundred yen (¥100.)
as a congratulatory gift on this occasion.

SPECIAL THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION.

Sunday, April 8th, 1923.

9:00 a. m. Sunday-School, at usual places, Visitors speak-
ing.

10:00 a. m. Morning Service, Kumamoto Lutheran Church,
Suido-cho.

Rev. Ishimatsu.

Sermon: "Distinctive Doctrines of the Lutheran Church"

Rev. C. W. Hepner.

2:00 p.m. SPECIAL ANNIVERSARY SERVICE

Kyushu Gakuin Church.

Presiding: Rev. K. Takimoto.

Address: "The Progress of the Lutheran Church in
Japan". Rev. T. Yonemura, Kyoto.

Address: "The Lutheran Church Throughout the World",
Rev. A. C. Knudten, Nagoya. (Rev. H.
Inadomi interpreting.)

Report of the Present Strength of the Lutheran Church
in Japan, Rev. D. Honda, Tokyo.

Report of our Theological Seminary: Rev. J. K. Linn.

Report of Kyushu Gakuin: Mr. S. Toyama.

Report of Kindergarten Work: Miss Akard.

Reading of Greetings from the Board of Foreign Missions.

Presentation of Pictures of Dr. Holland and Dr. Brown.

7:30 p. m. SPECIAL EVANGELISTIC SERVICES

Kumamoto Lutheran Church.

Sermon: Rev. H. Inadomi.

Sermon: Rev. H. Aoyama, Kobe Church.

SIXTH SESSION.

Kyushu Gakuin, Kumamoto Monday, April 9th, 1923.

8:30 a. m. Devotions led by Mr. Gray.

9:15 a. m. Called to order for business,
Rev. C. W. Hepner, V. P. presiding.

Minutes of previous sessions read and approved.

The Business Committee reported that the Mission's proportion of the Nenkwai's expenses to this Convention amount to ¥411.03.

A motion was made and carried authorizing the Treasurer to pay this amount to the Treasurer of the Nenkwai

The following cable message was received from Mrs. Robert Holland (in code) and read before the Convention:

"Baltimore, Maryland. Heartly greetings for all Japanese Christians and the Mission, in memory of Dr. Holland.

Ephesians iii: 14 to 21. Mrs. Holland."

The Mission passed a vote of sincere appreciation and thanks to Mrs. Holland.

The Joint Business Committee reported that the Nenkwai had appointed a committee to investigate the advisability of raising the standard of the present Theological Seminary and at the same time establishing a Bible School.

No action was required and this was received as information.

A motion was made and carried and later approved by the Nenkwai, that all special expenses of this Thirtieth Anniversary Convention be defrayed by Mission and Nenkwai in the proportion of two to one.

The Joint Executive Committee reported that, in regard to the Fund for Needy Pastors and Evangelists and its administration, Messrs. Stirewalt and Honda had been appointed by this committee as a committee to suggest rules and regulations: that the report of Messrs. Stirewalt and

Honda had been received and reviewed by the Joint Executive Committee, and would be made the basis of further investigation by the Joint Executive Committee, with a view to making concrete proposals for the administration of this fund at the next Convention. — Received as information.

The Business Committee reported that the Nenkwai had passed a resolution asking the Literature Committee to provide standard music for the rendition of the Common Service.

This resolution was approved by the Mission.

Adjourned Noon.

SPECIAL SESSION JOINT MINISTERIUM.

Kyushu Gakuin Church, Kumamoto.

Monday, April 9th, 1:30 to 2 p. m.

SEVENTH SESSION.

Kyushu Gakuin, Kumamoto. Monday, April 9th, 1923.

2:30 p. m. V. P. Hepner presiding.

Minutes of previous session read and approved.

Miss Akard reported for Women's Work, as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON WOMEN'S WORK.

Your committee on Women's Work wishes to report

the following in regard to beneficiary students.

Five young women are in Bible Training School, two of whom will graduate in June of this year. Two young women are in High School preparatory to entering Bible Training School. One of these assumed her own support from last June. We regret that it has been found necessary to discontinue support of one of our High School girls, on account of ill health. In Kindergarten Training School we have three young women, one of whom enters this term.

Your committee also presents the following resolution ;

1. that Miss Potts remain in Tokyo for a third year of language study, and for investigation of school management, buildings, curricula, etc, in preparation for work in the School.
2. That Okubo Hiroe San, Bible woman in Hakata, be asked to resign on account of poor health.
3. That the minimum qualification for assistant kindergarten teachers be graduation from Koto Jo Gakko.
4. That Ishitani Tsuruko San be appointed to Hakata upon her graduation from Bible Training School in June.
5. That the training of Ushijima Sakae San for work in the Girls' School, be turned over to the School Promoting Committee.
6. That in answer to a request from Amagi for funds to open a kindergarten there, we reply that we consider it unwise to open kindergarten work there.
7. That we reiterate our request to the Mission Board to send out speedily—more single women missionaries, asking for emphasis on the evangelistic field at this time, as all the women on the field now are appointed to either educational or eleemosynary work.

Respectfully submitted,
Martha B. Akard,
Maude Powlas,
Annie Powlas,
C. W. Hepner.

All of the recommendations proposed by the Committee were adopted, and the Report adopted as a whole.

The following motion was made and carried:

That the Moji Church be requested to pay its account for the "Ruteru" from the beginning of 1922, and that other churches and preaching places that have been receiving money from the Mission for the "Ruteru" during the past year be asked to adjust in consultation with the Treasurer.

Mr. Hepner reported as the Mission Representative on the BOARD OF THE CANADIAN ACADEMY that he had attended the meetings of the directors and personally inspected the new class-room building recently bought in Kobe and reconstructed on the school grounds. He said the plant was good in every respect and that the school had without doubt secured a good bargain in the purchase of this building. He reported that the management of the Canadian Academy is very desirous of receiving from the respective Mission all moneys promised for this work, and that to date none had been paid by our Mission. He referred to the fact that whereas the Mission had asked a contribution of ¥5,000 for this purpose, the Board had suggested that ¥2,500 would be the appropriate figure, but inasmuch as the Board had as a matter of fact not definitely declined to grant ¥5,000, and had actually granted the amount in the budget, he asked that the Mission in session decide the matter and as soon as possible make the payment to the Academy.

Report was accepted as information.

Motion: That it is the desire of the Mission that the total amount of ¥5,000 be granted to the Canadian Academy for the special class-room building: that ¥2,500 be paid at once and the other half be paid as soon as the Board can be consulted and their consent obtained.

Carried.

Motion: That the various plans for the establishment

of a circulating library for our pastors be taken out of the Literature Committee and put in the hands of the Joint Executive Committee so that definite plans might be proposed at the next convention.

Carried in the Mission.

Reported to the Nenkwai, but no action reported as having been taken in the Nenkwai.

On the recommendation of the Joint Executive Committee, it was moved and carried that Matsuoka Kanzo, Theological student, should receive beneficiary aid from April 1923.

Miss Maude Powlas reported for the Colony of Mercy:

COLONY OF MERCY REPORT.

Altho it has been only seven short months since our last Mission meeting, your committee feels that great strides have been made towards putting our Lutheran Church on the map in eleemosonary work. Six rooms of our Old People's Home were completed in January at a cost of yen 1,004, and three of the most needy old people taken in. A nine room home for the girls was built, costing yen 5,300, and an eight room orphan home costing yen 4,500 is nearing completion.

Our money, like the widow's oil and meal, has continued to increase until we are not only able to dedicate buildings free of debt, but have enough money left to pay off a Yen 1,700 debt on the land, build a two room house for canning and weaving, build permanent buildings for our goats and chickens, and put a fence around part of the lot. The work has been most wonderfully blessed and our hearts are filled with thanksgiving.

The work has received the recognition of the leading newspapers of the city. Information as to the progress of the work has been solicited from time to time and printed with

pictures of the buildings. The work has also received official recognition. Among other things the city office asked us to let them work along with us in the work for the old people as they had no money to build a home.

Monthly letters have been sent out to the Sunday Schools with most encouraging results. While the offerings are small, the fact that almost all of our Sunday Schools are now observing Orphan Home Day is quite encouraging. Several of the women's societies have also taken great interest in the work. Kobe, with a Christmas offering of yen fifty and Kyushu Gakuin, with bedding for the old peoples' home, head the list. The Kumamoto W. C. T. U. has also shown great interest in the rescue work. They have raised more than yen 100 to pay expenses on our rescue cases.

Thru the illness and return home of Mrs. Neilson we suffered the loss of one of the main members of our committee. Your committee took the liberty of co-opting Mrs. Horn to take her place. At the same time we co-opted Mrs. Toyama, Rev. Kawase and Mrs. Mizoguchi as the three Japanese members authorized by the Mission.

Three girls have been rescued during the seven months. Two children whose mother had deserted them and whose father had been confined to his bed for six months with tuberculosis, were taken into the orphan home. The father of these children was put into the charity ward of the hospital and responded so readily to the treatment that he was able to leave the hospital and do light work in three months.

The poor peoples' Christmas was celebrated as usual. More clothes, fruit and money for rice cakes and toys was given by the two local churches than we needed for this Christmas tree.

A request was sent to the Executive Committee for a place on the program of the Convention for the official opening and dedication of our work. We were granted the afternoon of April the seventh. Your committee has spent much time and thought to make this meeting mean much

to the work; especially can this be said of Mrs. Toyama who has been the guide and the stay of the committee.

The officials of the prefecture, city and village have been called upon and all have accepted our invitation to take part in the program. The newspaper men were called together and given full information about the program, and about our aim and future plans for the work, for publication.

Upon the request of the governor and the mayor a synopsis of work done and future plans, together with map of the land illustrating our plans was printed for distribution. Copies of these will be given to the pastors to take back to their churches, and sent to all W. C. T. U. of Kyushu. Your committee also desires that a program of our Dedication be printed in our minutes and a record of the happenings of the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
The Committee.

On recommendation of the Joint Executive Committee, it was moved and carried in both Mission and Nenkwai that the rule according to which adopted children shall not receive child allowance be set aside in the case of one child to be adopted by the Rev. Muto as his legal heir.

Motion: That we express the earnest hope that by the time of the next Annual Convention churches shall have been organized in the following places: namely, Minamata, Nagoya, Hita, and Shimonoseki.

Carried in Mission and Nenkwai.

Motion: That we request the Kyushu Gakuin Zaidan to call the Rev. I. Miura, just returning from America, to a professorship in the Theological Seminary, Kumamoto.

Carried in Mission and Nenkwai.

Acting upon the recommendation of the Joint Executive Committee, Resolved, that we request the Kyushu Gaku-in Zaidan to ask Rev. H. Inadomi to take more hours in the Middle School department and fewer in the Seminary, looking forward to his taking part especially in the religious work of the Middle School.

Carried in both Mission and Nenkwai.

Resolved: That the resignation of Mr. Kitakoga Yoshitaro from the Nenkwai be accepted, and that he be granted full salary for April and ¥600 as a retiring allowance.

This recommendation was made by the Joint Executive Committee, and the resolution was passed by both Mission and Nenkwai.

Resolved: That we approve the recommendation of the Joint Executive Committee that that we do not recognize the independence of the Omuta congregation, for the reason that the basis of the proposed independence is not sound.

Passed by the Mission.

Passed by the Nenkwai.

Resolved: That the rule governing the functions of the Literature Committee (Minutes of 1921, page 24, 8) be amended as follows: Strike out the words, "constitute a Board of Editors for our periodicals Ruteru and Shinju".

Passed by Mission and approved by Nenkwai.

Resolved: That the Mission agree to the proposal of the Nenkwai that a Board of Editors for the Ruteru, consisting of four Japanese and one missionary, be constituted, with the proviso that all of these five members be nominated by the Joint Executive Committee and approved by both the Nenkwai and the Mission.

Carried by Mission and Nenkwai.

The Board of Editors thus nominated and approved by both houses is as follows:

Mr. Miura (Mr. Tsuboike temporary
Mr. Okuma substitute)
Mr. Watanabe
Mr. Takashima
Mr. Hepner.

Resolved: That Mr. Muto be appointed to succeed Mr. Shiina at Minamata.

Mr. Muto's appointment to Minamata was ratified by both Mission and Nenkwai.

Resolved: That Mr. Watanabe be appointed pastor of Saga Church.

This appointment ratified by the Mission and Nenkwai.

Resolved: That Evangelist Takami reside in Tosu.
Ratified by Mission and Nenkwai.

The Nenkwai submitted a resolution and passed it, to the effect that the attention of the Pastor and Missionary at Nagoya be called to the fact that the Chikusa Preaching Place is in fact and should be conducted as a dependent preaching place in connection with the Nagoya Church.

In reply to this, the Mission approved the idea, but suggests that the last clause should read, "as a dependent preaching place in connection with the Nagoya Station."

The appointment of Rev. S. O. Thorlaksson upon returning from furlough was discussed, but no definite decision reached. The Mission passed a resolution that he should be appointed to the Kurume field. The Nenkwai amended this to read that he should be appointed to the Fukuoka field. The result was a deadlock, and the matter will have to be referred to the Joint Executive Committee to decide ad interim.

The Nenkwai passed a resolution that the next annual convention be held in Tokyo in the fall.

The Mission did not approve this action.

The question of time and place of the next annual convention will automatically fall to the Joint Executive Committee to decide ad interim.

The Nenkwai passed a resolution that if the Christian Council is organized we ought to go into it, but that the whole question be entrusted to the Joint Executive Committee.

The Mission, in reply, passed a resolution, suggesting that it is too early for the Lutheran Church to consider this question, and recommending that we await the actual organization of the Council before taking any official action in regard to it.

The Nenkwai reported the following elections:

Pres.	Rev. Takimoto.
V. P.	Rev. Yonemura
Sec.	Rev. Honda
Treas.	Rev. Aoyama

Members of the Joint Executive Committee:

Revs. Takimoto, Chiga and Yonemura.

Members of Constitution Revision Committee.

Revs. Chiga, Ishimatsu and Honda.

Members of the Evangelistic Committee:

Revs. Honda and Chiga.

Members of the Literature Committee:

Revs. Takashima and Inadomi.

(The Mission Members of the Constitution Revision Committee remain as formerly, Revs. Stirewalt, Hepner and Linn.)

Adjourned 5:45 p. m.

Kyushu Gakuin Church.

Monday, April 9th, 1923.

6 p. m. The Fourth Annual Convention and Thirtieth Anniversary Convention of the Japan Lutheran Church was formally closed by a joint service of both Mission Chamber and Nenkwai, the Officers of the Nenkwai presiding.

The foregoing Minutes are respectfully submitted.

Signed :

Chas. W. Hepner. V. Pres.

Edward. T. Horn. Sec'y.

The Japan Mission.

(APPENDIX)

SUMMARY OF BUDGET FOR 1924.

MEN'S WORK :

Evangelistic Budget	¥ 60,457.00	
Mission Station Budget	21,703.00	
Mission General Budget	29,234.00	
Kyushu Gakuin Budget	43,985.00	... ¥155,379.00

WOMEN'S WORK :

Evangelistic Budget	¥ 4,342.00	
Mission Station Budget	3,190.00	
Mission General Budget	5,280.00	
Institutional Budget	16,470.00	 29,282.00

Grand Total of Budget for 1924. 184,661.00

Respectfully submitted to the Board, Kyoto, Japan,
September 26th to 29th, 1923,

(Signed) Finance Committee Committee.
Mission Executive Committee.
